His Majesties
DECLARATION
CONCERNING
LEAVIES.

Charles R.

OUr expresse pleasure is, That this Our Declaration be Published in all Churches and Chappels within the Kingdome of *England* and Dominion of *Wales*, by the Parsons, Vicars or Curates of the same.

Reprinted at *Oxford* by His Majesties Command.

By Leonard Lichfield, *Printer to the Vniversity.* 1642.

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¶ His MAIESTIES Answer to a Printed Paper, intituled,

A new Declaration of the Lords and Commons in Parliament, of the 21. *of* June 1642. *in Answer to his Majesties Letter dated the* 14 *of* June, *and sent to the Lord* Major, Aldermen, *and* Sheriffs *of the City of* LONDON.

IT seems by a new Declaration of the 21 of *June*, in Answer to Our Letter of the 14 of the same month to the Lord Major of *London*, that the Lords and Commons in Parliament have much more leasure then they pretend, or that those Persons whom We have before described in

Our former Anſwers and Declarations, and of whom onely We would be underſtood to ſpeak, think ſuch Declarations and Votes to be ſuch unreſiſtable Engines of Battery againſt Us and the Law, that no ſtrength can oppoſe them: And therefore though they will take notice from whence that Letter came, they will vouchſafe it no other mention, but *of a Paper* (as if found by chance) inſcribed, *To Our truſty and welbeloved, &c.* And it is wonder, that ſince they have uſurped the Supream Power to themſelves, they have not taken upon them the Supream Style too, and directed this very new Declaration, *To their truſty and welbeloved, their Subjects of the Citie of London*; For it is too great and palpable a ſcorn to perſwade them to take up Arms againſt Our Perſon, under colour of being loving Subjects to Our Office, and to Deſtroy Us, that they may Preſerve the King.

They are offended that We ſhould beleeve, That their end of perſwading Our Subjects to raiſe Horſe, and to furniſh Money upon pretence of a Guard for the Parliament, is in truth to imploy thoſe Horſe, Men and Money againſt Us: Let the reaſons of Our belief be never

ver ſo ſtrong, and their Actions never ſo evident to compell all other men to beleeve ſo too, The Lords and Commons do declare (think what you will, and ſee what you can) *That the Deſigne of thoſe Propoſitions for raiſing Men, Horſe and Money, is to maintain the Proteſtant Religion, The Kings Authority and Perſon in his Royall Dignity, The free courſe of Juſtice, The Laws of the Land, The Peace of the Kingdom, and the Priviledges of Parliament againſt any Force which ſhall oppoſe them*: And this all men are bound to beleeve, though they ſee the Proteſtant Religion, and the Profeſſors thereof miſerably reproached, and in danger of being deſtroyed by a vicious and Malignant Party of Brownists, Anabaptiſts, and other Sectaries, (the principall ring-leaders of whom have too great a power, even with ſome Members in both Our Houſes of Parliament) Our Authority deſpiſed, &, as much as in them lies, taken from Us, and reviled in Pulpits and Preſſes by perſons immediately in their Protection, and of their recommendation, and Our Perſon driven away by Tumults and rude multitudes, againſt whom We can have no Juſtice; The courſe of Juſtice interrupted and ſtopped by

Orders and Injunctions never heard of till this Parliament; The Laws of the Land trampled under foot and fruſtrated, and new Laws attempted to be made and impoſed upon Our Subjects without and againſt Our conſent; The Peace of the Kingdom ſhaken and frighted away by diſcountenancing the Laws, abſolving (as much as in them lies) the people from the Rules of Government or Obedience, and even declaring a War againſt Us, and the Laws of the Land; And laſtly, The Priviledges of Parliament ſo far extended, as if to the bare ſound of *Priviledge of Parliament*, *The Liberty and Property of the Subject*, the dignity and certainty of the Law were in ſuch ſubjection, that they may firſt make what Orders they pleaſe, and in what caſes they pleaſe; And whoſoever diſputes thoſe Orders, and ſubmits not to thoſe Votes, breaks their Priviledges, and whoſoever breaks their Priviledges is an Enemie to the Common-wealth, and worthy of ſuch other Attributes (either of favouring the Rebellion in *Ireland*, or advancing the War here) as are moſt likely to render that perſon ſuſpected or odious to the People: If in truth this be evidently and demonſtrably the caſe, ſuch Declarations

rations will no more gain credit with, or longer miſ-lead Our Subjects, then if they ſhould tell them, That We are perſonally with them in *London*, when all men ſee Us here at *York*.

As they have Declared (the beſt Argument or Evidence you are to look for) that all that they do is lawfull, becauſe they do it; ſo they proceed, by the ſame power, to aſſure thoſe, who are apt to be deceived by them, that the Force already attending Us (they would certainly do otherwiſe if they did really beleeve ſuch Force to be about Us) and the Preparation We are making, do evidently appear to be intended for ſome great and extraordinary Deſigne, and do juſtifie their former Votes of Our intention of Leavying Warre againſt Our Parliament: And they have at laſt given ſome Reaſon for that Vote and Declaration; They finde by our ſeverall Declarations that We intend force againſt thoſe who ſhall ſubmit to the Ordinance of the *Militia*, and that We intend to make an attempt upon *Hull*: In both which Caſes they are pleaſed to declare, *That whatſoever violence ſhall be uſed either againſt thoſe who exerciſe this* Militia, *or againſt* Hull,

Hull, *they cannot but take it as done againſt the Parliament.* We are beholding to them that they have explained to all Our good Subjects the meaning of their Charge againſt Us; That by Our intention of making War againſt Our Parliament no more is pretended to be meant, but Our Reſolution not to ſubmit to the high injuſtice and indignity of the Ordinance, and the buſineſſe of *Hull.* We have never concealed Our intentions in either of thoſe particulars (We wiſh they would deal as cleerly with Us) but have alwayes, and do now declare, That that pretended Ordinance is againſt the Law of the Land, againſt the Liberty and Property of the Subject, deſtructive to Soveraignty, and therefore not conſiſtent with the very Conſtitution & Eſſence of the Kingdom, and to the Right and Priviledge of Parliament; That We are bound by Our Oath (and all Our Subjects are bound by theirs of Alleagiance & Supreamacie, and their own Proteſtation lately taken, to aſſiſt Us) to oppoſe that Ordinance which is put already in execution againſt Us, not onely by Training and Arming Our Subjects; but by forceably removing the Magazines from the places truſted by the Counties,

to

to their Own houſes, and guarding it there with Armed men; whither it will be next removed & how uſed by ſuch perſons We know not. That the keeping Us out of *Hull* by Sir *John Hotham* was an Act of high Treaſon againſt Us, and the taking away Our Magazine and Munition from Us was an Act of Violence upon Us (by what hands or by whoſe direction ſoever it was done) and in both Caſes, by the help of God and the Law, We will have Juſtice or loſe Our life in the requiring it, the which We do not value at that rate as to preſerve it with the infamy of ſuffering Our Self to be rob'd and ſpoiled of that dignity We were borne to. And if it be poſſible for Our good Subjects to beleeve, that ſuch a defence of Our Self, with the utmoſt power & ſtrength We can raiſe, *is making a War againſt the Parliament*, We do not doubt (however it ſhall pleaſe God to diſpoſe of Us in that Contention) but the Juſtice of Our Cauſe will at the laſt prevail againſt thoſe few Malignant Spirits who for their own ends and Ambitious deſignes have ſo miſled and corrupted the underſtandings of Our People, and that both Our houſes of Parliament will in ſhort time diſ-

cerne by their own obſervation and the Information We ſhall ſpeedily give them, how neer this Flouriſhing Kingdom is brought to ruine and confuſion by theſe Perſons.

And ſince neither Our Declaration, nor the Teſtimony of ſo many of Our Lords now with Us can procure credit with theſe Men, but that they proceed to leavy Horſe, & to raiſe Money and Arms againſt Us; We are not to be blamed, if (after ſo many gracious expoſtulations with them upon undeniable Principles of Law and Reaſon, which they anſwer onely by voting that which We ſay to be neither Law nor Reaſon, and ſo proceed actually to leavie War upon Us to juſtifie that which cannot be otherwiſe defended) at laſt We make ſuch Proviſion, that as We have been driven from *London*, and kept from *Hull*, We may not be ſurprized at *York*; but in a condition to reſiſt & bring to juſtice thoſe Men, who would perſwade Our People, that their Religion is in danger, becauſe We will not conſent it ſhall be in their power to alter it by their Votes; or their Liberty in danger, becauſe We will allow no Iudge of that Liberty but the known Law of the Land: yet what ever Proviſion We ſhall be

compelled

compelled to make for Our Security, We will be ready to lay down as ſoon as they ſhall have revoked the Orders by which they have made Leavies, and ſubmit thoſe perſons who have detained Our Towns, carried away Our Arms, and put the *Militia* in execution contrary to Our Proclamation, to that Triall of their Innocence the Law directs, & to which they were born. If this be not ſummitted to, We ſhall with as good a Conſcience (and We beleeve We ſhall not want the affections of Our good Subjects to that end) proceed againſt thoſe who ſhall preſume to exercile that pretended Ordinance for the *Militia*, and the other who keep Our Town of *Hull* from Us, as We would reſiſt perſons who came to take away Our life or Our Crown from Us. And therefore We ſhall again remember and require Our Citie of *London* to obey Our former Commands, and not to be miſled by the Orations of thoſe Men (who are made deſperate by their Fortunes, or their Fortunes by them) who tell them their Religion, Libertie, and Propertie is to be preſerved no other way but by their diſloyaltie to Us; That they are now at the brink of the river, and may draw

their Swords, when nothing purſues them but their own evill conſciences. Let them examine what excellent fruits of Religion the lives of thoſe Men have brought forth, and what great Advancers they have been of the Publike Libertie, and Property; How long they have had thoſe Opinions they would ruine them to defend, and how they came to thoſe Opinions; Let them conſider whether their Eſtates come to them, and are ſetled upon them by Orders of both Houſes, or by that Law which We Defend; What Security they can have to enjoy their Own, when they have helped to Rob Us; And what an happy Concluſion that Warre is like to have, which is raiſed to oppreſſe their Soveraigne; That the Wealth and Glory of their Citie is not like to be deſtroyed any other way, but (and that way inevitably it muſt) by Rebelling againſt Us; nor their Wives and Children to be expoſed to violence and villanie, but by thoſe who make their Appetite and Will the Meaſure and Guide to all their Actions. Let them not fancie to themſelves Melancholike apprehenſions, which are capable of no ſatisfaction, but let them ſeriouſly conſider what ſecu-

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rity they can have, that they have not under Us or been offered by Us; And whether the Doctrine these men teach, and would have them defend, doth not destroy the foundations upon which their securitie is built.

And We do lastly declare again, and publish to all the World; That We shall proceed against all Persons whatsoever that shall assist those Leavies, by furnishing of Horse, Money and Plate, as against the Disturbers of the Publique Peace, and the Authors of those Distractions which threaten the Ruine of Us and this Kingdom.

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FINIS.

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